

SEEKING THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

One of The National Tribune People Touring to the Far North.

Letters From a "Sailor Aunt."

On Board the R. M. S. P. Amazon,
July 11, 1909.—Dear "Favorite Niece":
"A life on the ocean wave."
A home on the rolling deep."

You've heard that before, but it expresses our present situation, since the only home we'll know for the next 12 days will be a ship, with the "scattered waters" raving about us and the winds making merry in their noisy "revels." For three days we have been members of this "giddy company," all of us bound for the Land of the Midnight Sun, but representing different lands ourselves, too, for the most part, united by the bond of a common language.

We came down from London on Thursday last—this is Sunday—and found all our luggage, which we had put in charge of an agent when we arrived in Southampton, safe and sound, except my trunk. Gracious, what a time we did have finding it! Elizabeth was much excited as I was, for, of course, it was out of the question to think of going on without the trunk. We just plain couldn't; all my belongings, except what I had in my hold-all, were in it, and we kept up a mad race for fully three-quarters of an hour back and forth, from the deck on which the luggage was placed, when we got on board to our stateroom, hoping each trip to find that the cabin stewards, who were supposed to put the trunks, etc., in the proper cabins as soon as they were deposited on the deck, had found and so deposited mine. As this is a very large ship, and our room at the extreme further end from the deck where the luggage was, and generally in a red skirt and coat, which really looks like a "ready-made," with a white shirtwaist, and a little red felt hat turned up, the faintest notion as to where the trunk could possibly be, the confusion of everything was so great, as is al-

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probably be thankful many times during her trip that she didn't take more of the rather heavy material, dark blue is about the best color, with a small hat, that she sees all sizes and styles of goods, and another good-looking suit with hat to match, for land traveling, and these are really all any woman needs for a summer's trip of two or three weeks. There is one necessary article of the toilet which I haven't mentioned and upon which I wish to put great stress, and that is a good-looking pair of shoes. Feet are very much in evidence on board ship, and a woman cannot be too careful of the way she covers these useful members. There are many styles of fancy stockings and high French-heeled slippers, such as I have seen on the Amazon and on the other ship, but I don't mean a neat, well-fitting low shoe or boot, not half worn out, but nice and new. You know, good-looking footwear is always a sort of hobby of mine. I like to wear nice shoes myself, always; but if ever a woman needed to be extravagant in this particular it is on board ship, and don't you forget it.

The people so far have been rather "offish." Of course, neither Elizabeth nor I have made the least advance ourselves, but the atmosphere has been stiff-backed and most characteristically English, and we have not tried to penetrate it. Opposite us at table sit a couple of Scotch young men, one of whom with rather a spoiled child expression; he between 20 and 40 somewhere and a typical Englishman. Indeed, he is so English that I can hardly understand a word he says when I happen to catch one. A large, splendid-looking Scotch gentleman sits next to me, with a large, fine-looking face, next to him. No one else at the table interests us at all. Until today we have come and gone in absolute silence, neither our English couple nor the Scotch couple, who are the only people at all, noticing us by word or look. At breakfast, however, this morning, when Elizabeth and I took our seats, we were a little late, the Scotch man, who had smiled and said, "Good morning," whereupon the English couple followed suit, and all during the meal the conversation was so friendly and so animated. The Englishman informed us he had spent 20 years in Birmingham, where he said his youngest daughter, "dear," what a tagged-out-looking "thing" an English woman will wear and act as if she were carrying around a Worth costume at least once through the world, and he had not a single article of her own. He was in the humor of unpacking a dinner dress, agreed to wear our neat-looking traveling suits in to dinner. We had not time to put on our steamer clothes. After the dressing bell rang, the deck cleared to such an alarming

Bible, saying, "We, too, love that tune," and he smiled and nodded in assent. But I hear you say: "Why don't you tell me something about Norway?" Be- lieve me, dear, there isn't anything to tell you yet. We expect to make Tromsø to-morrow, where I shall mail this letter. The Norway coast so far has not been especially wonderful; the rocks are not so very high and generally barren. What has given interest to the scene has been the little red and yellow houses, which from the ship look almost like toy houses, peering at the foot of the rocks and in the valleys between. For the last hour or two more verdure has appeared, but the trees look small. Little islands here and there, covered with trees, make a pretty picture, and one of these as we approached looked exactly as if a woman were standing in the center of it with her arms outstretched, as if she had proved to be a queerly-shaped white rock when we got up close enough to see. The weather has been cold and windy, but the sun has shined for two days. Last night I slept in that warm quilted silk wrapper I bought in Japan over my robe de nuit, and, besides, called for an extra blanket, and the cold all right, for we expected and provided for that, but these two gray days make us terribly apprehensive as to the weather we are likely to have. The entire success of the Norway cruise depends upon pleasant weather, and they tell us that nothing is more uncertain or unreliable than Norway's weather, and that we need not be surprised if it rains all the time we are in the country. Cheerful prospect, isn't it?

You have said you wanted to follow me in this cruise, I will tell you that we went from the English Channel, thru the Straits of Dover into the North Sea, and then on to the coast of Grimsby, in the northern part of England, about 2 o'clock on Friday, our second day out. No one went ashore, as we had nothing to do but wait for the ship to be fired twice, and you should have seen the great rocks which were on board on Saturday morning, which was a nice, bright day, we sighted the Scottish coast, and I was surprised not to find it more rocky and craggy, and the sea was very rough in the southern part of the North Sea. A gun on the ship was fired twice, and you should have seen the great rocks which were on board on Saturday morning, which was a nice, bright day, we sighted the Scottish coast, and I was surprised not to find it more rocky and craggy, and the sea was very rough in the southern part of the North Sea.

We reached Leith about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and the sea was very rough for fully two hours. For some reason we were not encouraged to go ashore, and nobody did. Some 50 persons came on board, and among them were our Scotch couple and her grace, the Duchess. Leith looked very pretty from the ship, and seemed to be quite a nice place. The sea was very rough, and the air was thick with them. We reached Leith about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and the sea was very rough for fully two hours. For some reason we were not encouraged to go ashore, and nobody did. Some 50 persons came on board, and among them were our Scotch couple and her grace, the Duchess. Leith looked very pretty from the ship, and seemed to be quite a nice place. The sea was very rough, and the air was thick with them.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

(Continued from page one.)

a survival of the old aristocratic feeling running thru the ages, that only the aristocracy and best men in a country should be allowed to bear arms. This is the history of every country in Europe, from the Roman times down. It is the feeling in the great Turkish Empire, where the bearing of arms has always been restricted to the aristocracy. Every man in Europe, in the Middle Ages, only men of the better classes were allowed to "wear steel," and the peasantry strictly denied any weapons but the pitchfork.

The Irish soldiers in the army took particular offense at the idea of enlisting the negroes, but neither did the rest of the army. The Scotch couple, who were the only people at all, noticing us by word or look. At breakfast, however, this morning, when Elizabeth and I took our seats, we were a little late, the Scotch man, who had smiled and said, "Good morning," whereupon the English couple followed suit, and all during the meal the conversation was so friendly and so animated. The Englishman informed us he had spent 20 years in Birmingham, where he said his youngest daughter, "dear," what a tagged-out-looking "thing" an English woman will wear and act as if she were carrying around a Worth costume at least once through the world, and he had not a single article of her own. He was in the humor of unpacking a dinner dress, agreed to wear our neat-looking traveling suits in to dinner. We had not time to put on our steamer clothes. After the dressing bell rang, the deck cleared to such an alarming

extent that Elizabeth turned to me and suggested that possibly, after all, we had better go down and make a change of toilet. "Oh, no, don't let us," I said. "We look plenty well enough. It is quite excusable in us not to dress the first night on board, and I don't believe that we ever will do so, anyway." So we stuck it out; but when the dinner bell rang and we took our time in getting to the dining-room, Elizabeth, who was ahead of me, took me by the hand and turned to me. "We dine on deck to-night," she said decidedly. "Every woman in there is rigged out within an inch of her life, and I simply haven't the courage to face them in this dress." So we did dine on deck, but that was the only time we didn't dress for dinner. After dinner, as the different women are always walking when on a ship—we had a good chance to see the others, which had so distressed us. Most of them were pitiful attempts at dinner dresses, skirts hung lankly, and the gowns had a generally rumpled, cheap look. Of course, there were some ladies some among them, and, as time has gone on, we have seen many a costume that excited our deepest envy, for right here as a bit of advice to any woman going abroad for the first time to say that if she is not wealthy, or if she is and does not want to be bothered with a lot of clothes to take with her for a dinner dress a handsome black gown, either of silk or some light material like voile, trimmed tastefully with white, touched up as a first-class dress-maker knows how, or one made of any dark color lightened in some pretty way, but don't take tagged-out evening dresses or anything particularly conspicuous. Such a gown as the black and white, if thoroughly up-to-date and well-fitting, is all anyone needs for such a purpose. It is a little more elegant than a long one another one of the same character might be carried along just for a change. But the one we had plenty, and any woman taking my advice would

taking away from the shops and fields the young men who were so necessary to maintain the country's industries. To recruit the negro would not only give proper employment to those thrown upon our hands, but it would be another sap run into the vitals of the Confederacy, and would thus tell doubly toward the success of the war, weakening the enemy and strengthening ourselves.

The dispute raged with exceeding bitterness on both sides, accentuated by vehement yells from the Southern Confederates. Upon the receipt of the news of the organization of negro troops by Gen. Hunter at Hilton Head and Phelps at New Orleans, Jefferson Davis issued an order that these two Generals be no longer regarded as public enemies, but as outlaws, and that in the event of the capture of either of them or of any other officers engaged in the organizing, drilling or instructing the slaves, they should not be treated as prisoners of war, but held in close confinement for execution at such time and place as might be determined upon.

In spite of all this opposition, the feeling in favor of enlisting the negroes ground in Congress and in the country. The Senators from Delaware, Kentucky and Virginia vigorously fought the bill, which provided that there should be no discrimination with regard to color in executing the draft, and that all of the slaves of rebels who served in the Union army should be free thereafter. It is indicative of how the progress of this sentiment was that this bill did not propose to free the wives and children of such soldiers. A year later it was proposed to give the loyal masters of slaves \$300 each for such of their slaves as should be enlisted in the army, but the Border States Representatives and Fernando Wood of New York, denounced the bill as a violation of the Constitution, and that all of the slaves of rebels who served in the Union army should be free thereafter. 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